

#### Food Waste Management and Composting on a College Campus

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TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

### Outline

- Why college campus food management works
- Where we are now
- How we got here
- Where we go from here





# The college campus compost recipe

Land Grant = LAND, ANIMALS

+ University = STUDENTS, RESEARCH

+ Facilities Dept = EQUIPMENT, TREES

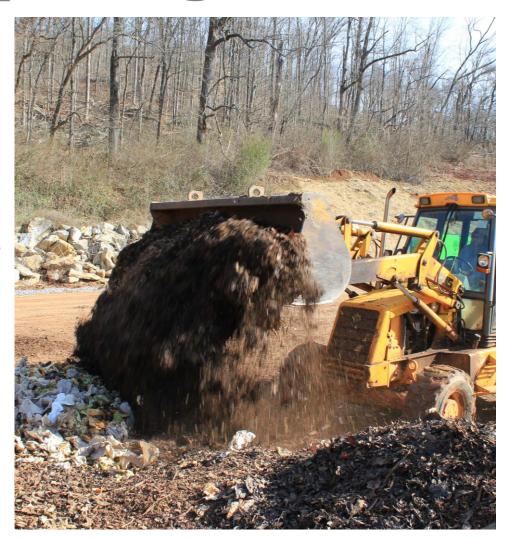
+ Dining = ALL-YOU-CARE-TO-EAT



## Where composting is now

35 Regular Food Collection locations

- + Events
- + 3 dump trailers for manure
- + 7,000 trees
- = 1,372 tons of material composted



# The college campus food recovery recipe

Large venues, events, and storefronts

- + Heightened sense of awareness
- + Food insecurity among students themselves
- + Service hour requirements
- + Social group



# Where food recovery is now

#### Football games:

- Skyboxes
- Concessions
- + Restaurants/Stores
- + Catered Events
- = 18,526 pounds of food donated to area nonprofits since July 2017



## Compost timeline

2001- Leaves

2005- Coffee Grounds

2010- Student intern, current compost site

2010- Pre-consumer food scraps

2010- Post-consumer food scraps from events

2011- Wood chips (storm)

2011- All-you-can-eat post-consumer scraps

2011- Bobcat Skid Steer- Green Fee

2012- Shaker Screen- Plant Sci. Dept.

2013- Manure/bedding, trailer

2015- Zero Waste AmeriCorps member

2016- Dump bed + Cart Tipper

2016- Paper Towel composting

2017- Full-time dedicated compost site

operator

2017- Trackhoe- Green Fee



### Food donations timeline

2013- Concessions Manager donating food from Athletic Events

2014- Food Recovery Network (FRN) student group

2015- FRN recovering food from campus convenience stores

2017- Full-Time AmeriCorps VISTA Food Systems Coordinator



## Compost future?

- ☐ Hand Dryers to replace paper towels
- ☐ Kitchen/Break Room composting
- ☐ Compostable materials in concessions and togo dining locations
- ☐ Zero Waste Policy
- ☐ Compost containers everywhere



## Food donation future?

- ☐ Campus garden to donate produce
- ☐ Local food pantries collecting material directly
- ☐ Food donations from regular dining facilities-Food Donation Connection
- ☐ Create an app or group to notify students of leftovers from events
- Permanent campus home for food pantry & free store



## **Questions?**

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